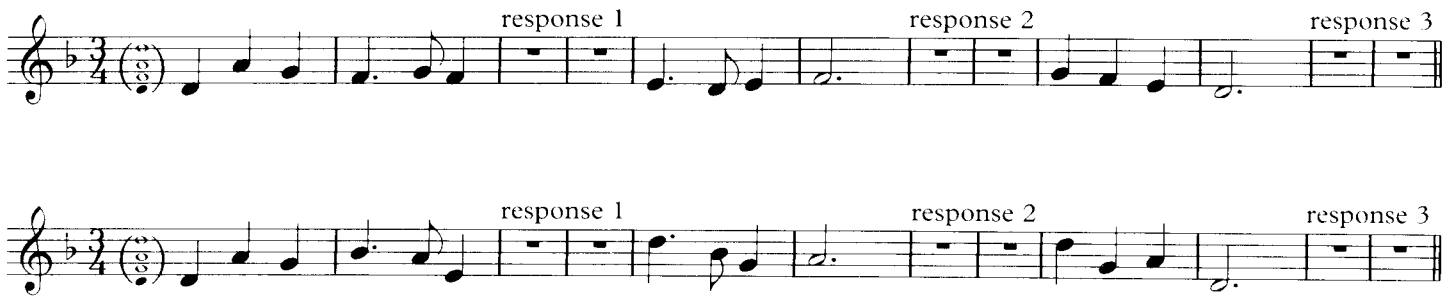
VISIT…

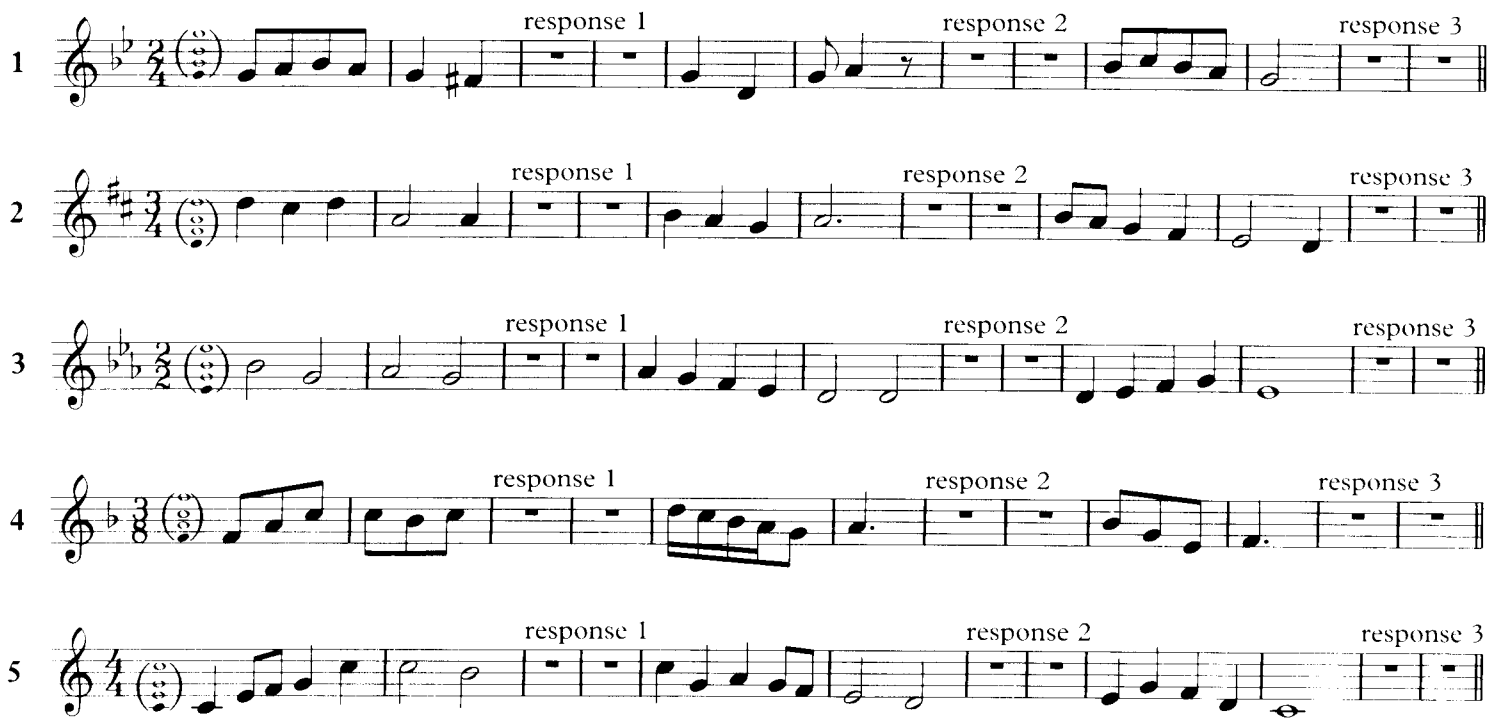
Test 3B: Echo singing

'To sing, as an echo, three short phrases limited to a range of one octave in a major or minor key played by the examiner. The echoes should follow each phrase in strict time without an intervening pause. The key-chord and tonic will first be sounded and the pulse indicated.'

If pupils have worked steadily and consistently through the steps from the Preparatory Test level to this stage, the extra range of notes which they will meet in this grade should provide no difficulties. The melodies will be either major or minor, but always memorable in shape and rhythm. This point needs to be kept in mind when improvising melodies for pupils, as is the natural flow for the repetition, so that the resulting melody makes a satisfying whole.

The following examples illustrate this point; the first is more naturally singable than the second. Care in this respect will lead to the all-important building up of confidence.



PRACTICE TESTS

As in Grades 1 and 2, introduce each test by saying: 'I shall play three short phrases. After I play each phrase, I want you to sing it like an echo and in time. Here is the key-chord .... and the tonic .... Here is the pulse .....'